

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LOME 00474 231351Z

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 AID-05 EB-08
OMB-01 ACDA-07 COME-00 OIC-02 DLOS-06 SAL-01 DHA-02
IOE-00 /134 W

-----231401 011671 /45

P 231115Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY LOME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1771

C O N F I D E N T I A L L O M E 0 4 7 4

DEPT PASS OAU COLLECTIVE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PORG, OAU

SUBJECT: MULTI-LATERAL AFFAIRS: OAU COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEETING,
LOME FEB. 21-28

REF: STATE 032906

1. CEREMONIAL OPENING TOOK PLACE AFTERNOON OF FEBRUARY 21.
PRINCIPAL SPEECHES DELIVERED BY PRES. EYADEMA AS HOST AND BY
MAURITIAN FOREIGN MINISTER HAROLD WALTER AS OUTGOING PRESIDENT
OF COUNCIL. THE MINISTERS OF CHAD, EGYPT AND BOTSWANA ALSO MADE
BRIEF INTERVENTIONS AS UNOFFICIAL REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES THANKING
EYADEMA FOR HOSTING THE MEETING.

2. WALTER'S SPEECH WAS A REPORT ON HIS SIX MONTHS TERM OF
OFFICE AND ALLOWED HIM TO STRIKE OFT-REPEATED AFRICAN THEMES SUCH
AS CONDEMNATION OF MINORITY RULE, APARTHEID, ARROGANCE OF DEVELOPED
WORLD TOWARDS LDCS, INTRANSIGENCE OF ISRAEL, NEED FOR AFRICAN
UNITY, ETC. WALTER NOTED KISSINGER CONTACTS ON NAMIBIA AND ZIMBABWE
HAD ONCE APPEARED PROMISING BUT NOW THAT RESULTS ARE IN, THEY
CAN BE SEEN ONLY AS A MANEUVER TO GAIN TIME. EYADEMA'S SPEECH
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LOME 00474 231351Z

(SUMMARY REPORTED SEPARATELY THROUGH USIS CHANNELS) COVERED SIMILAR
LIST OF AFRICAN CONCERNS. HIS REFERENCE TO U.S. INITIATIVE IN
RHODESIA, HOWEVER, WAS INDIRECT AND MORE CHARITABLE: "DESPITE
RECENT PRESSURES, THE RACIST REGIME HAS NOT LOOSENED ITS GRIP
AND SLIPS AWAY FROM ALL NEGOTIATIONS."

3. AGENDA LISTS 30 ITEMS. TWENTY ITEMS ARE EITHER PROCEDURAL

OR DEAL WITH FINANCIAL AND INSTITUTIONAL MATTERS. TWO ITEMS ON ECONOMIC COOPERATION CONCERN THE REPORTS OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL ON THE CONFERENCE OF AFRICAN MINISTERS OF INDUSTRY AND ON THE RESULTS OF THE SECOND ALL AFRICAN TRADE FAIR. FIVE ITEMS DEAL WITH LEGAL-POLITICAL MATTERS:

A) REPORT ON THE INTERNATIONAL STATUS OF SOUTH AFRICA (THIS IS THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE WHICH MET IN OCTOBER TO ADVISE THE OAU OF SOUTH AFRICA'S STATUS IN INTERNATIONAL LAW. THE MAJORITY CONCLUSION ADVISES AGAINST LEGAL CHALLENGE OF SOUTH AFRICA AND URGES LIBERATION THROUGH ARMED STRUGGLE. THE MINORITY REPORTS CONDEMNING SOUTH AFRICAN VIOLATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS WERE SUBMITTED BY SENEGAL AND GUINEA, AND BY THE EGYPTIAN CHAIRMAN.)

B) REPORT ON THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR THE LIBERATION OF AFRICAN (REVISED DOCUMENT NOT YET READY FOR DISTRIBUTION)

C) REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL ON THE MIDDLE EAST AND PALESTINE.

D) REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL ON THE COMOROS

E) CONSIDERATION OF AFRICAN CANDIDATES FOR UN SPECIALIZED AGENCIES.

3. TWO ITEMS DEAL WITH SCIENTIFIC SUBJECTS--DROUGHT AND NATURAL DISASTERS, AND A REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL ON LOS. (IN HIS OPENING SPEECH, WALTER ANNOUNCED THAT THE OAU MEETING ON CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 LOME 00474 231351Z

LOS WOULD TAKE PLACE IN LAGOS PRIOR TO THE RENEWED LOS CONFERENCE).

4. ONE ITEM LISTS FOUR TOPICS WHICH HAVE BEEN PROPOSED FOR DISCUSSION BY MEMBER STATES:

- A) DRAFT CONVENTION ON MERCENARIES BY ANGOLA
- B) REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE BY LESOTHO
- C) PROPOSED DISCUSSION OF SUMMIT ON AFRICAN-ARAB COOPERATION BY LIBYA
- D) BENIN PROPOSAL FOR EXTRAORDINARY COM MEETING ON "IMPERIALIST ARMED AGGRESSION" OF JANUARY 16.

5. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS SUDANESE DELEGATION HAS WITHDRAWN ITS REQUEST THAT COM DISCUSS THE REMOVAL OF OAU HEADQUARTERS FROM ADDIS ON THE GROUNDS THAT THIS SUBJECT IS BEYOND THE COMPETENCE OF THE COM AND MUST BE DISCUSSED AT THE SUMMIT IN LIBREVILLE.

6. MEETINGS FEBRUARY 22 CONCERNED EXCLUSIVELY WITH ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS. HOWEVER, UGANDAN DELEGATION AT FIRST CLOSED SESSION

MADE STATEMENT ABOUT RECENT COUP ATTEMPT AGAINST GOVERNMENT AND REGRETTED ACCIDENTAL DEATH OF THREE WITNESSES. THIS PROMPTED GHANAIA COMMISSIONER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS FELLI TO EXPRESS CONCERN THAT AFRICANS SHOULD TAKE BETTER CARE OF PRISONERS. RECENT INCIDENTS DEALING WITH PRISONERS COULD WELL WEAKEN THE CREDIBILITY OF AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS IN WORLD OPINION. TANZANIAN DELEGATE DENIED ANY INVOLVEMENT OF HIS GOVERNMENT IN ANTI-UGANDAN PLOTTING.

7. ALSO IN CLOSED SESSION OAU SEC GEN ETEKI MBOUMOUA SPOKE IN FAVOR OF EXCLUSIVE RECOGNITION OF PATRIOTIC FRONT IN RHODESIA. HIS INTERVENTION IS UNDERSTOOD TO HAVE TRIGGERED PROTESTS FROM FLOOR, INCLUDING LENGTHY REBUTTAL BY GAMBIA DELEGATE.

8. MUGABE AND SITOLE ARE IN LOME. BRITISH DIPLOMAT FROM ACCRA COVERING CONFERENCE HAS INSTRUCTIONS TO SEEK OUT BOTH AND DENY EUROPEAN AND SOUTH AFRICAN PRESS REPORTS THAT SOUTH AFRICA WILL PARTICIPATE IN U.S.-BRITISH CONSULTATIONS ON RHODESIA THIS CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 LOME 00474 231351Z

WEEK IN WASHINGTON.

9. LOME COM IS NOW SCHEDULED TO CONTINUE TO FEBRUARY 28TH. PALMER

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED OAU COLLECTIVE.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING AGENDA, SPEECHES, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LOME00474
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770062-0927
Format: TEL
From: LOME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770218/aaaaapui.tel
Line Count: 145
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 193161c0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 32906
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3254682
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MULTI-LATERAL AFFAIRS: OAU COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEETING, LOME FEB. 21-28
TAGS: PFOR, PORG, XA, OAU
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/193161c0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009